

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 00770 091831Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W

----- 036420

R 091814Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6697

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 00770

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, IT

SUBJECT: QUAI'S FIRST REACTION TO ITALY'S POLITICAL
CRISIS

1. QUAI ITALIAN DESK OFFICER DEBENEST TELLS US THAT QUAI, LIKE OTHERS, IS THOROUGHLY PUZZLED BY PSI'S DECISION TO PRECIPITATE MAJOR CRISIS AT THIS TIME. SINCE PSI MUST KNOW THAT CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS CANNOT ACCEPT ITS CONDITIONS, THE CRISIS WILL THIS TIME ALMOST INEVITABLY BE LONG, DIFFICULT AND RESULT IN NEW ELECTIONS. IN SUCH ELECTIONS, QUAI THINKS PSI MIGHT CONCEIVABLY GAIN AN ADDITIONAL FIVE PERCENT OF VOTE. HOWEVER, THIS WOULD NEITHER PUT IT INTO RANKS WITH TWO MAJOR PARTIES NOR CHANGE PROPORTIONS BETWEEN THEM SIGNIFICANTLY. WHAT PSI EXPECTS TO OBTAIN BY THIS MOVE, WHICH CAN ONLY SET ITALY BACK FURTHER, IS THEREFORE VERY UNCLEAR.

2. AT SAME TIME, DEBENEST TOOK OCCASION TO EXPRESS IN VERY BLUNT TERMS QUAI'S DISTRESS AT MOST RECENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 00770 091831Z

WASHINGTON REVELATIONS ABOUT ALLEGED DECISION TO

SUPPLY FURTHER COVERT FUNDING FOR ITALIAN CONSERVATIVE
PARTIES. SUCH MAJOR INDISCRETION AT THIS TIME CAN
ONLY FURTHER AID PCI WHICH NOW HAS EVEN MORE PLAUSIBLE
CASE THAT IT IS ONLY ITALIAN PARTY WHOSE HANDS ARE
CLEAN. WHILE DEBENEST DID NOT THINK CIA FUNDING STORY
WOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO TIP BALANCE, SINCE IT IS ONLY
ONE OF MANY FACTORS AFFECTING ITALIAN POLITICAL SCENE,
IT WAS CLEAR THAT QUAI CONSIDERS IT DELETERIOUS AND
DISTURBING.
RUSH

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PARIS00770
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760009-0235
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760169/aaaacjfr.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: QUAI'S FIRST REACTION TO ITALY'S POLITICAL CRISIS
TAGS: PFOR, FR, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006